

MEETING 2 FOCUS GROUP HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CHAIRS JULY 13, 2020

FOCUS GROUP IS ON POTENTIAL RETURN IN FALL AND WHAT YOU AS STAKEHOLDERS WOULD LIKE. STATE IS REQUIRING US TO DEVELOP 3 PLANS:

1. FULL REMOTE
2. HYBRID VERSION REMOTE AND IN PERSON
3. FULL RETURN

WE ARE NOT ADVOCATING FOR THE 3 FOOT DISTANCE MODEL BUT IT IS THE MODEL WE HAVE TO PUT TOGETHER.

WE WILL GO OVER ALL THREE PLANS:

WITH REGARD TO PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT IT WILL BE REQUIRED. FULL IN PERSON WONT BE PRACTICAL. WE HAVE LARGE STOCK FACE MASKS, GOGGLES, GOWNS, GLOVES HAND SANITIZER..WE USED CARES MONEY FROM MAYOR'S OFFICE TO PURCHASE WHICH WAS HELPFUL.

ERIN GOING OVER FALL GUIDANCE:

ACCORDING TO COMMISSIONER GOAL IS TO BRING BACK AS MANY STUDENTS AS POSSIBLE AND PLAN FOR MULTIPLE

THREE PLANS

MUST SUBMIT ALL THREE PLANS. FOURTH PIECE IS MUST HAVE SOMETHING IN PLACE FOR STUDENTS WHO DON'T RETURN TO SCHOOL.

GO OVER SAFETY REQUIREMENT

CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN OUT YET. PHYSICAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENT...NOT SCREENING ON ENTRY, HOWEVER, EVERYONE SHOULD OBSERVE STUDENTS. TEMP CHECKS ARE NOT REQUIRED. HAND WASHING PROTOCOL IN PLACE. NEED TO IDENTIFY COVID ISOLATION SPACE IN SCHOOL AND NEEDS TO BE SEPARATE FROM THE NURSES OFFICE.

PLAN MUST BE DEVELOPED AND SUBMITTED BY JULY 31, 2020. WE MUST SUBMIT IN PERSON LEARNING. WE MUST CREATE THREE PLANS AND FACTOR IN TEACHERS, PARENTS AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE. 5 DAYS A WEEK AND USE ALTERNATIVE SPACES AND CONSIDER USING SPACING OUTSIDE SCHOOL. STAFFING ALTERNATIVES.....USING MORE TEACHERS FOR OTHER SUBJECTS AND RECOMMEND KEEPING KIDS IN COHORTS.

HYBRID MODEL WOULD BE KEEPING KIDS TOGETHER IN COHORTS AND TAKE TURNS WITH DIFFERENT DAYS OF WEEK AND CLEANING ON WEDNESDAYS OR HALF DAYS. NEED TO PRIORITIZE SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS FOR FULL-TIME LEARNING. STUDENTS WHO DON'T HAVE INTERNET OR COMPUTER ACCESS WOULD NEED TO COME IN WITH APPROPRIATE SUPERVISION.

FULL REMOTE

GRADED AND ASSESSMENTS SIMILAR TO REGULAR SCHOOL YEAR.

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS OR SUGGESTIONS FOR FACE TO FACE MODEL

QUESTION: WHAT WOULD BE PENALTY TO SAYING NO TO THE STATE?

ANSWER: DESE CONTROLS DISTRICTS THROUGH FUNDING AND THAT WOULD HAVE AN IMPACT. WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FILE SAFETY ATTESTATION WHEN WE CAN'T GUARANTEE SAFETY SO THAT WOULD BE OUR STRENGTH IN AN ARGUMENT IF WE DECIDED IT WAS TOO UNSAFE.. WE WILL WORK WITH QUINCY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO ENSURE SAFETY.

QUESTION: I THOUGHT DEADLINE WAS NOW JULY 31ST IS THAT NOT CORRECT?

ANSWER: WE WERE TOLD SOME TIME IN AUGUST SO PLEASE SEND TO ME IF YOU HAVE IT. THEY HAVEN'T RELEASED LIST OF GUIDANCE AND HAVEN'T GIVEN ANY OF THAT INFORMATION AS YET.

QUESTION: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SANITATION BETWEEN CLASSES?

ANSWER: CUSTODIAL STAFF WILL BE RESPONSIBLE. WE HAVE TO WORK OUT ALL OF THESE PLANS. THERE WON'T BE ENOUGH CUSTODIAL STAFF TO CLEAN BETWEEN CLASSES.

QUESTION: AS EL STUDENTS ARE HIGH NEED SUB GROUP WILL THERE BE ANY CONSIDERATION AS TO COMBINE BOTH HIGH SCHOOLS PROGRAMS TO ATTEND SOME WHERE SEPARATE AND UNIQUE AND INCREASE STAFFING WITH DEDICATED TEAM OF SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES AND MATH TEACHERS?

ANSWER: ANY SUGGESTION IS HELPFUL AND ON THE TABLE. MOST LIKELY WE WILL DO FULL REMOTE OR SOME SORT OF HYBRID VERSION. SPECIAL ED AND EL WILL BETHE FOCUS. NORTH QUINCY HIGH AND ECC IS IN PERSON NOW AND WILL BE MODEL FOR WHEN WE GO BACK. POTENTIALLY FACILITATE IN PERSON INSTRUCTION.

QUESTION: THERE WOULD BE APPROX 270 ELS BETWEEN TWO SCHOOLS WOULD THAT FIT AT ECC OR ANOTHER LOCATION?

ANSWER: THERE MAY BE ENOUGH ROOM AT HIGH SCHOOLS THEMSELVES BUT WILL HAVE TO LOOK INTO IT OR OTHER LOCATIONS. WE ARE WORKING WITH THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AS WELL. IF WE DO A HYBRID MODEL, IT WILL LEAVE MORE ROOM FOR EL STUDENTS.

QUESTION: IF WE GO TO HYBRID WILL TEACHERS BE REQUIRED TO GO INTO SCHOOL ALL FIVE DAYS?

ANSWER: THIS IS PART OF THE PURPOSE OF FOCUS GROUPS. WE ARE LOOKING FOR FEEDBACK WITH REGARD TO WHETHER IT IS MORE EFFECTIVE FOR STAFF TO BE IN SCHOOL AND SET UP OR TO BE AT HOME. THERE IS A MANDATE FOR THE DISTRICT TO FOCUS ON EL AND SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS FOR IN-PERSON. THIS IS A WORK IN PROGRESS AND DON'T HAVE ANSWER YET.

QUESTION: IN EVENT OF RETURN I DON'T THINK ALL SYSTEMS WILL BE TOLD TO DO SAME THING. THREE KIDS IN DIFFERENT SCHOOL SYSTEM...IF I RETURN TO WORK AND THEY HAVE REMOTE LEARNING.. IS THERE AWAY AROUND COMPLICATION FOR PARENTS?

ANSWER: THIS IS HUGE COMPLICATION AND WE HAVE TO WORK THROUGH IT. WE REALIZE THAT STAFF HAVE THEIR OWN FAMILIES TO CARE FOR AND WE AREN'T CERTAIN IF CHILDCARE FOR STAFF IS AVAILABLE AND WE HAVE TO SEE WHAT STAFF MEMBERS ARE EVEN CAPABLE OF RETURNING. CHILD CARE AND THEIR OWN HEALTH ISSUES WILL BE CONSIDERED.

QUESTION: CONCERN FOR BOTH IN PERSON AND HYBRID. IS THERE CONSIDERATION FOR THE CONSTANT SHARING OF ROOMS AND SHARING COMPUTERS AND BUILDINGS HAVE TRAVELING TEACHERS?

ANSWER: WE WOULD HAVE TO PUT IN PLACE PROTOCOLS TO LIMIT EXPOSURE TO EACH OTHER AND A COMPUTER SHOULD BE USED BY ONE PERSON. IT IS ALL A CHALLENGE.

QUESTION: PEOPLE WHO TRAVEL BETWEEN SCHOOLS IS CONCERNING HOW WILL THAT BE HANDLED?

ANSWER: THE GOAL IS TO LIMIT OR ELIMINATE THAT POSSIBILITY ALTOGETHER.

QUESTION: IF THE BANDWIDTH IS STRONG, WILL ALL STAFF GET LAPTOP AND LIMIT TRAVEL AND NOT USE STANDING COMPUTERS IN CLASSROOM?

ANSWER: INTERNET CONNECTIONS/SPEED ARE BEING WORKED ON AND LAPTOPS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR TEACHERS TO LIMIT RISKS.

QUESTION: IN REMOTE LEARNING WILL CHROMEBOOKS FOR 5-12 BE AVAILABLE? ARE WE GOING TO BE ABLE TO MANDATE THAT KIDS ARE THERE AND WE CAN SEE THEM THERE?

ANSWER: GOOD POINT. WE CAN ADDRESS WITH PARENTS THAT SCREEN NEEDS TO BE ON AT ALL TIMES.

COMMENT: THE DR. WILLS PD THAT WAS OFFERED WAS TERRIFIC. THAT WAY OF APPROACHING CURRICULUM ONLINE DURING GOOGLE MEET IS FANTASTIC. IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER THAN WHAT WE DID DURING CLOSURE. JUST WATCHING SOME OF CLASSES GO ON OVER SUMMER HAS BEEN GREAT INTERACTION WITH STUDENTS AND TEACHERS. IT ISSUES ARISE AND IT'S HARD TO MAINTAIN BUT I THINK IT'S A GOOD DIRECTION.

COMMENT: WE ARE OFFERING THAT PD AGAIN IN AUGUST. THE FEEDBACK ON THERESA WILLS PD HAS BEEN VERY GOOD.

COMMENT: I WOULD MAKE THIS MANDATORY FOR STAFF TO DO THIS PD.

COMMENT: WILL TAKE UNDER CONSIDERATION

QUESTION; ARE ALL LEVEL OF SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS CONSIDERED HIGH NEEDS?

ANSWER: DEFINITELY ALL SUBSTANTIALLY SEPARATE WILL BE IN PERSON FULL- TIME BUT RESOURCE OR INCLUSION WOULD PROBABLY BE SOME SORT OF HYBRID. STUDENTS WILL NEED SOME FACE TO FACE INSTRUCTIONS. WE WILL HAVE TO BRAINSTORM THAT.

QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU INVISION IF THERE IS A SINGLE CASE OR MULTIPLE CASES OF COVID?

ANSWER: IT DEPENDS ON WHO THE POSITIVE PERSON HAS COME IN CONTACT WITH. FOR EXAMPLE A TEACHER AND HAS BEEN ISOLATED TO ONE CLASS....THAT CLASS AND TEACHER WOULD NEED TO QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS AND MAKE SURE NO ONE ELSE CAME IN CONTACT MORE THAN 15 MIN THEN THAT PERSON WOULD NEED TO QUARANTINE AND SO FORTH AND IF ITS MORE WIDESPREAD IT WOULD NEED TO GO BACK TO REMOTE. IT WILL VARY CASE TO CASE. CLOSE CONTACT IS CONSIDERED SOMEONE WITHOUT MASK, LESS THAN 6 FEET DISTANCE AND MORE THAN 15 MIN.

QUESTION: AS FOR THE 14 DAYS IS IT STILL THAT TIME FRAME TO QUARANTINE?

ANSWER: IF YOU TEST POSITIVE YOU HAVE 10 DAY QUARANTINE THEN THE LAST 3 DAYS WOULD HAVE TO BE SYMPTOM FREE. IF U DON'T GET TESTED NEED TO QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS.

QUESTION: WHAT IF SOMEONE IN HOUSEHOLD HAS CLOSE CONTACT? DIFFERENT SCHOOLS BUILDINGS?

ANSWER: IT WOULD DEPEND ON HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AND CLOSE CONTACT.

HYBRID MODEL:

COMMENT: ALL OF US WANT TO GO BACK BUT I THINK WE NEED TO CONSIDER WHAT WE GO BACK TO DO NEEDS TO BE DIFFERENT. MOST OF GREAT ACTIVITIES TO ENGAGE KIDS WILL BE SQUASHED. IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO RISK PEOPLE DYING.. I DON'T SEE A WAY TO BE FACE TO FACE I THINK MUST BETTER SERVED AND GO FULL REMOTE UNTIL SUCH A TIME REASSESS. WE DON'T KNOW ENOUGH AND HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY.

ANSWER: WE NEED TO DEVELOP ALL PLANS.

COMMENT: HYBRID BECOMES DOABLE FOR SMALLER AMOUNTS OF STUDENTS IN BUILDING. MY CONCERN IS SIMILAR IS IF DISTRICTS ARE ABLE TO DO DIFFERENTLY...EXAMPLE..IF CANTON CAN DO EVERY OTHER DAY AND QUINCY EVERY OTHER WEEK. HOW WILL TEACHERS MANAGE THAT WITH THEIR OWN SCHEDULES

ANSWER: IT'S GOING TO BE A CHALLENGE AND WILL WORK WITH STAFF AND WHO NEEDS TO BE AT HOME ETC

QUESTION: LET'S SAY WE HAVE 25 KIDS. ONE DAY HALF DAY AND GO BACK TO THURSDAY AND FRIDAY FOR NEXT SET OF KIDS....IN ORDER MEET 6 FEET AND MAYBE GET SOME SENSE OF EDUCATION AND ARE IN SCHOOL HAVE SUPPLIES HAVE SMART BOARDS, WHITE BOARDS ETC

ANSWER: 2 COHORTS A & B WOULD HELP MEET THESE NEEDS.

COMMENT: WITH THAT CALCULATOR GOING 6 FEET....FIVE FEET WOULD NOT SOLVE THAT PROBLEM....GLOBALLY WE NEED TO COME UP WITH A DISTANCE THAT IS SAFE. IT WILL BE UNEQUAL NUMBER. WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE 12 KIDS IN CLASS.

COMMENT: I THINK TEACHERS WILL WANT TO START THINKING OF CURRICULUM AS REMOTE. I THINK THE SOONER WE GET TEACHERS THINKING ABOUT THIS THE MORE PRODUCTIVE IT WILL BE. LATE AUGUST MIGHT BE TOO LATE TO GEAR UP AND LAY OUT A PLAN. WITH LAPTOPS AND CHROMEBOOKS WE WILL HAVE TOOLS

QUESTION: COULD TEACHERS USE PD HOURS IN JULY AND AUG TO DEVELOP THEIR PLANS?

ANSWER: I DON'T SEE WHY NOT. WE CAN TAKE A LOOK AT THAT. EVERYTHING IS ON THE TABLE.

FULL REMOTE

COMMENT: MY CONCERN WITH THAT IS ASSESSMENT AND LACK OF SUPERVISION. WE WON'T BE ABLE TO GIVE ASSESSMENTS. WHAT WOULD OUR ASSESSMENT STRATEGY LOOK LIKE? WHAT SHOULD GRADING POLICY LOOK LIKE? WE NEED WELL DEFINED

EQUITY AND TECH AND EL STUDENTS ARE AN ISSUE. WE HAVE NUMBER OF KIDS WHO ARE HAVING TECH PROBLEMS AND ABILITY TO TROUBLESHOOT IS A REAL CHALLENGE. COMPOUND THAT WITH LANGUAGE BARRIER KIDS ARE DROPPING OUT. THAT IS MY CONCERN WITH FULL REMOTE

AS AN ENGLISH TEACHER CONCERN IS GETTING TEXTS INTO KIDS HANDS WE HAVE NOTHING LIKE THAT IN ENGLISH. WE WILL NEED SOME SORT OF WAY TO GET MATERIALS INTO HANDS OF KIDS. OR A NEW PROGRAM THAT GETS THEM MATERIALS DIGITALLY...FIND TEXTS THAT ARE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND SEND OUT LINKS BUT A LOT OF FUNDAMENTAL MATERIALS AREN'T AVAILABLE THAT WAY. WE ARE GOING TO NEED TO COLLECT MATERIALS AND GET MATERIALS BACK.

WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR REMOTE AND COME IN SCHOOL FOR EXAMS? EVERYONE IS IN BUILDING ON THAT ONE DAY?

TWO DAYS FOR EXAMS?

COMMENT: THERE ARE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL CONCERNS FOR STUDENTS. IT IS SOMETIMES HARD TO KEEP THEM ENGAGED EVEN WHEN IN SCHOOL. I THINK IT WILL BE CHALLENGING TO KEEP THEM ENGAGED. I AM IN FAVOR OF HYBRID. SAME GOES FOR EL STUDENTS...HARD TO MEET NEEDS

COMMENT: SOCIAL EMOTIONAL IS CRITICAL AND A BIG PROBLEM. ONLINE IS BAD ENOUGH AND NOW ISOLATION IS A BIG CHALLENGE

QUESTION: WHO DECIDES ON WHETHER OR NOT WE GO BACK? IF WE GO BACK?

ANSWER: IT WILL BE ULTIMATELY UP TO SCHOOL COMMITTEE. THEY WILL BE LOOKING AT OUR RECOMMENDATIONS. THEY WILL LOOK AT OUR RECOMMENDATIONS. WE WILL WORK WITH GUIDANCE FROM STATE.

QUESTION: DO WE IGNORE EVERYTHING COMING FROM WASHINGTON...FROM GOVT AND DEPT OF ED?

ANSWER: NO. PAY ATTENTION FOR SURE ESPECIALLY STATE GUIDANCE....WHO ANSWERS TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. IT'S MOST LIKELY UP TO US.....PRIMARY FOCUS FOR US IS SAFETY FIRST – EDUCATION SECOND...DO BEST FOR KIDS IS MAIN THING.

QUESTION: WHAT DID PARENTS SAY?

ANSWER: PARENTS ARE JUST AS CONCERNED AS YOU ARE WITH SAFETY. SOCIAL EMOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL REGRESSION AND LACK OF MOVEMENT FORWARD IN EDUCATION. MOST PEOPLE RECOGNIZE REMOTE LEARNING WAS NOT VERY EFFECTIVE. IF WE DO GO REMOTE WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE WE DO IT TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY WITH LIVE INSTRUCTION. I RECOGNIZE CONCERNS IN REGARDS TO THE ASSESSMENT PIECE. WHATEVER PLAN WE PICK WE AREN'T GOING TO SATISFY EVERYBODY.

COMMENT: WE ARE SENDING OUT PARENT SURVEY TODAY...IT DOES NOT COMMIT FAMILIES TO A FINAL DECISION BUT WE WANT A SENSE OF WHAT FAMILIES ARE FEELING. REMOTE? HYBRID? FACE TO

FACE? IF WE ARE ABLE TO OPEN IN FALL, WOULD THEY SEND CHILDREN BACK? WITH REGARD TO A HYBRID MODEL: WE WANT FEEDBACK FROM TEACHERS AND PARENTS. SPLITTING DAYS? AM OR PM? TWO DAYS A WEEK? ONE WEEK ON ONE WEEK OFF? THE SURVEY IS GOING OUT IN SPANISH AND CHINESE. IN THAT SAME VANE WE WANT TO PUT TOGETHER A TEACHER CHOICE SURVEY. HOW DO THEY FEEL ABOUT COMING BACK? WHAT ARE BARRIERS TO DIFFERENT MODELS? WE ARE LOOKING FOR AS MUCH FEEDBACK AS POSSIBLE. WE AREN'T GOING TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY. WE ARE TRYING TO DO OUR BEST.